

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

RYAN JOSEPH AHERN,

Defendant.

**INDICTMENT**

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The Grand Jury charges:

**COUNT 1**

(Production and Attempted Production of Child Pornography)

On or about November 5, 2019, in Kalamazoo County, in the Southern Division of  
the Western District of Michigan,

**RYAN JOSEPH AHERN**

knowingly used and attempted to use a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing visual depictions of that conduct, which visual depictions were produced and transmitted using materials that had been mailed, shipped, and transported in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce by any means, including by computer; and which visual depictions were actually transported and transmitted using any means and facility of interstate and foreign commerce and in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce.

Specifically, the defendant used his Apple iPhone XR to create a video and photos depicting the lascivious exhibition of the genitals of a 10-year-old girl, E.A. He then sent that video and those images to himself using a Yahoo.com email address.

18 U.S.C. § 2251(a), (e)

18 U.S.C. § 2256

**COUNT 2**

(Production and Attempted Production of Child Pornography)

On or about November 20, 2019, in Kalamazoo County, in the Southern Division of the Western District of Michigan,

**RYAN JOSEPH AHERN**

knowingly used and attempted to use a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing visual depictions of that conduct, which visual depictions were produced and transmitted using materials that had been mailed, shipped, and transported in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce by any means, including by computer; and which visual depictions were actually transported and transmitted using any means and facility of interstate and foreign commerce and in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce.

Specifically, the defendant used his Apple iPhone XR to create a video and photos depicting the lascivious exhibition of the genitals of a 10-year-old twin girl. He then sent that video and those images to himself using a Yahoo.com email address.

18 U.S.C. § 2251(a), (e)

18 U.S.C. § 2256

**COUNT 3**  
(Receipt of Child Pornography)

Between in or about March 12, 2019 and June 25, 2020, in Kalamazoo County, in the Southern Division of the Western District of Michigan,

**RYAN JOSEPH AHERN**

knowingly received child pornography using a means and facility of interstate and foreign commerce, which child pornography had been shipped and transported in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce by any means, including by computer.

Specifically, the defendant accessed multiple images of child pornography on the Internet and he then sent those images to himself using a Yahoo.com email address.

18 U.S.C. § 2252A(a)(2) and (b)(2)

18 U.S.C. § 2256

**COUNT 4**

(Possession of Child Pornography)

On or about June 25, 2020, in Kalamazoo County, in the Southern Division of the Western District of Michigan,

**RYAN JOSEPH AHERN**

knowingly possessed child pornography involving prepubescent minors that had been mailed, shipped, and transported using a means and facility of interstate and foreign commerce and in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce by any means, including by computer.

Specifically, the defendant possessed an Apple iPhone XR, which he knew to contain multiple images of child pornography.

18 U.S.C. § 2252A(a)(5)(B) and (b)(2)

18 U.S.C. § 2256

**FORFEITURE ALLEGATION**

(Production of Child Pornography;  
Attempted Production of Child Pornography;  
Receipt of Child Pornography; and  
Possession of Child Pornography)

The allegations contained in Counts 1-4 of this Indictment are hereby re-alleged and incorporated by reference for the purpose of alleging forfeitures pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2253.

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2253, upon conviction of an offense in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2251 or 2252A,

**RYAN JOSEPH AHERN**

shall forfeit to the United States of America any visual depiction described in 18 U.S.C. §§ 2251 or 2252A; any matter which contains any such visual depiction that was produced, transported, mailed, shipped, and received in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Chapter 110; any property, real or personal, constituting or traceable to gross profits or other proceeds obtained from the offenses; and any property, real or personal, used or intended to be used to commit or to promote the commission of the offenses or any property traceable to such property, including but not limited to an Apple iPhone, Model XR, Serial No. G0NXFQU1KXKW.

If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant

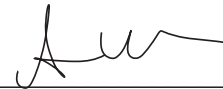
1. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
2. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
3. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court;

4. has been substantially diminished in value; or
5. has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty,

the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(p), as incorporated by 18 U.S.C. § 2253(b) and by 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c).

18 U.S.C. § 2253  
21 U.S.C. § 853(p)  
28 U.S.C. § 2461(c)  
18 U.S.C. § 2251  
18 U.S.C. § 2252A  
18 U.S.C. § 2256

A TRUE BILL



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GRAND JURY FOREPERSON

ANDREW BYERLY BIRGE  
United States Attorney



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DAVIN M. REUST  
Assistant United States Attorney